

Agency 03 - Legislative Council

Statutory Authority:

Article II, Section 1, Article III, Sections 1-29 of the Constitution of the State of Nebraska.

Vision Statement:

Mission Statement:

To provide the personnel, services, equipment, travel and other resources necessary for the conduct of the Legislature according to the provisions of the Constitution and Statutes of the State of Nebraska.

Goals:

Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	11,986,445	13,257,771	14,223,042	13,705,041	14,383,915	14,272,848
Cash Fund	22,449	84,960	88,295	84,960	85,222	84,960
Federal Fund	0	150,000	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	12,008,894	13,492,731	14,311,337	13,790,001	14,469,137	14,357,808

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Program 001 - Legislators' Salaries

Program Objectives:

Provides funds to pay Legislators' salaries as authorized by Article III, Section 7, Constitution of Nebraska.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	629,679	632,982	632,982	632,982	632,982	632,982
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	629,679	632,982	632,982	632,982	632,982	632,982

Performance Measures:

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Program 122 - Legislative Services

Program Objectives:

1. Provide staff assistance to the Executive Board that will allow for efficient administration of the agency.
2. Supply personal Legislative staff in accordance with the Executive Board policy
3. Provide for the physical relocation and start-up of Legislators' offices
4. Maintain and upgrade agency equipment
5. Pay sessional expenses to Senators
6. LR455 (1996) a study of the electric utility industry in Nebraska, LB388, 1997.
7. Retirement Systems Committee actuarial consulting
8. Accounting services rendered for legislative expense verification
9. Cost benefit analysis models for tax incentives (including models, assumptions, data and procedures used by state agencies and legislative policy makers) FY 97, 98, 99

Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	5,963,475	5,757,441	6,051,979	13,072,059	6,189,314	13,639,866
Cash Fund	9,544	60,000	60,000	84,960	60,000	84,960
Federal Fund	0	150,000	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	5,973,019	5,967,441	6,111,979	13,157,019	6,249,314	13,724,826

Performance Measures:

Governor's Recommendation Includes:

The Governor's recommendation includes funding within Program 122 for Programs 123, 126, 127, 501, 504, and 638.

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Program 123 - Clerk Of The Legislature

Program Objectives:

Subprogram 123-01 provides primary support for the year-around operation of the Legislature's chief administrative officer. Included are funds for the preparation and compilation of legislative documents and for preserving and distributing information on the results of each session as well as interim activity.

Subprogram 123-03 provides a large share of the administrative support for each regular session of the Legislature and Special Sessions as necessary. This includes the printing of bills and amendments, preparation of materials which ultimately become the permanent legislative records, support of legislative floor activity, including chamber automation system, and the voting system, legislative security and legislative bill storage.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	1,940,100	3,071,522	3,510,988	0	3,518,933	0
Cash Fund	12,905	24,960	28,295	0	25,222	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	1,953,005	3,096,482	3,539,283	0	3,544,155	0

Performance Measures:

Governor's Recommendation Includes:

The Governor's recommendation for Program 123 is included in Program 122.

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Program 126 - Legislative Research Division

Program Objectives:

The objective of program 126-11 is 1) to provide public policy and legal research to the members of the Legislature and legislative staff in support of the Legislature's policy-making role; 2) to do program evaluations in conjunction with the work of the Legislative Program Evaluation Committee; 3) to provide administrative support, including editing and desktop publishing, for the foregoing two functions. Based on performance measures, the primary goals of the Research Division are to increase usage by senatorial offices and to equalize the distribution of usage of the office among all senators.

The objective of Program 126-12 is to provide a full range of library services in the area of public policy in support of the activities of the Nebraska Legislature.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	685,571	838,132	877,053	0	869,298	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	685,571	838,132	877,053	0	869,298	0

Performance Measures:

For program 126-11, the number of research requests received and completed by the office in FY1996-1997 and FY1997-1998 were 497 and 418 respectively.

During FY1996-1997, requests for research were received from 46 out of 49 senatorial offices (94 percent) and four of the divisions of the Legislative Council. Of the total number of requests received during the fiscal year, requests from senators accounted for 85 percent while requests from the divisions of the Legislative Council and "other sources" (primarily NCSL, the Council of State Governments and other states) accounted for 4 percent and 11 percent respectively.

Governor's Recommendation Includes:

The Governor's recommendation for Program 126 is included in Program 122.

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Program 127 - Revisor Of Statutes

Program Objectives:

The Revisor of Statutes and Bill Drafting Division of the Legislative Council performs two primary functions:

- 1) Is responsible for preparing and publishing supplements and reissued and replacement volumes to the statutes as directed by the Legislature. Pursuant to Chapter 49, article 7, and section 50-402, a contract is negotiated to edit, print, bind, and publish supplements and reissued volumes to the statutes.
- 2) This division aids and assists members of the Legislature and the executive departments of the state in the preparation of bills, amendments, resolutions, and other related measures. As provided by section 50-402 and the Rules of the Nebraska Unicameral, all bills and major amendments are to be approved as to form and draftsmanship by this division prior to introduction.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	1,070,805	1,189,640	1,221,090	0	1,222,957	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	1,070,805	1,189,640	1,221,090	0	1,222,957	0

Performance Measures:

1. Inputs - staff and computer resources
2. Outputs - Provide an updated set of statutes and provide bill requests, amendments, and resolutions in a timely manner
3. Efficiency
4. Outcomes
5. Quality

Governor's Recommendation Includes:

The Governor's recommendation for Program 127 is included in Program 122.

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Program 129 - Constitutional Revision Commission

Program Objectives:

LB53, 1995, established the Nebraska Constitutional Revision Commission.

The Nebraska Constitutional Revision Commission shall make a complete study of the Constitution of Nebraska to determine what changes, if any, should be made. The commission shall place special emphasis on simplifying and condensing the constitution for the purpose of giving the Legislature broad powers, rather than numerous individual amendments. In making its study, the commission may hold such hearings throughout the state as it may find desirable.

The Nebraska Constitutional Revision Commission shall exist for two years.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	2,254	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	2,254	0	0	0	0	0

Performance Measures:

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Program 501 - Intergovernmental Cooperation

Program Objectives:

1. The adoption of uniform or reciprocal statutes, administrative rules and regulations, and informal cooperation of governmental offices is encouraged.
2. To better facilitate the utilization of staff resources and to encourage as well as to promote the development of expertise among various staff positions by funding staff members attendance at and participation in meetings, conferences, committee hearings, etc., on behalf of their senator/committee.

The function of this program 501-01, Senatorial Staff Travel, previously was in program 122-07, FY 88-89.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	390,668	421,678	445,821	0	459,306	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	390,668	421,678	445,821	0	459,306	0

Performance Measures:

Governor's Recommendation Includes:

The Governor's recommendation for Program 501 is included in Program 122.

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Program 504 - Office Of Public Counsel

Program Objectives:

The Office of the Public Counsel (Ombudsman) operates pursuant to the Public Counsel Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 81-8,240 thru 81-8,254. The essential function of the Office pursuant to the Act is to receive, investigate and attempt to resolve citizens' miscellaneous complaints relating to administrative agencies of state government. The Ombudsman's Office also responds to citizen requests for general information relating to the operation of government and participates in interim studies in cooperation with other Legislative Divisions and Senators' staff. By the terms of the Nebraska State Government Effectiveness Act of 1993 (Sections 81-2701,et.seq.), the Public Counsel's Office has a central role in protecting whistleblowers who report wrongdoing or mismanagement in state government.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	448,469	466,988	562,354	0	564,646	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	448,469	466,988	562,354	0	564,646	0

Performance Measures:

One way to measure the success of the Ombudsman's Office is by simply looking at the size and dynamism of its caseload. Continued growth in the caseload of the Ombudsman's Office is very important because a larger case load means that the Office will have an enhanced opportunity to achieve its fundamental objectives. Thus, the simple fact of growth in the caseload of the Ombudsman's Office can be considered as some measure of the success of the program.

Governor's Recommendation Includes:

The Governor's recommendation for Program 504 is included in Program 122.

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Program 638 - Fiscal And Program Analysis

Program Objectives:

Program 638 provides for the financing of the Legislative Fiscal Office, whose primary function is to provide staff assistance to the Legislature, in particular, as provided in statute, to the Appropriations Committee during their deliberations in formulating a budget recommendation to the Legislature.

1. Provide objective, independent and professional financial and program analysis of past, current, and proposed state agency operations.

Additional objectives included in budget request documents.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	855,424	879,388	920,775	0	926,479	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	855,424	879,388	920,775	0	926,479	0

Performance Measures:

1. Preliminary briefing of Appropriations Committee completed late January 2000 and Mid-February 2001.
Preliminary report completed in accordance with Rules of the Legislature.
Appropriations Committee recommendation to the Legislature Submitted by deadline set forth in Legislative Rules.
2. Projected bill introduction volume: 2000, 900; 2001, 550
Fiscal Note available prior to bill hearing, (frequency): 100 percent
Total Fiscal Notes sent out for agency comment: 2000, 1350; 2001, 1350

Governor's Recommendation Includes:

The Governor's recommendation for Program 638 is included in Program 122.